GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:800
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Procurement of Wheat
Ranjan Smt. Ranjeet

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the severe shortfall in the wheat procurement by various Government agencies despite increased wheat production in 2016-17 in comparison to 2015-16;
(b) whether the Government has taken measures to address the shortfall in wheat procurement and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) the total requirement of wheat stock for domestic consumption and the total quantum of wheat consumed in the country during 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively;
(d) the total wheat stock available (including imported wheat that was already contracted to arrive) in the country and the reasons for scrapping wheat import duty on December 8, 2016;
(e) the total quantum of wheat imported by the country in 2016 during the period of March-August, September-November and December respectively along with the month-wise data on the percentage of duty applied on the export of wheat from the country in 2016-17 and 2015-16 respectively; and
(f) the month-wise data on quantum of wheat exported from India in 2016 during the period of March-August, September- November and December?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a): The procurement of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2016-17 was 229.61 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT) against procurement of 280.88 LMT in RMS 2015-16.
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...2...
The foremost reason for shortfall in wheat procurement by various Government agencies despite increased wheat production in 2016-17 in comparison to 2015-16 is proactive buying of wheat by private players in the state of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
(b): Procurement in RMS 2016-17 was lower as compared to previous two years but the stock position of wheat was more than the buffer and strategic norms as given in the table below:-
(figs. In LMT)
Date
Stock Position of wheat
Buffer & Strategic Reserved Norms
Excess over norms
01.04.2016
145.38
74.60
70.78
01.07.2016
301.81
275.80
26.01
01.10.2016
213.28
205.20
8.08
01.01.2017
137.47
128.00
9.47
(c): The allotment and offtake of wheat under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/ National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Scheme (OWS) during 2015-16 and 2016-17 (upto December'2016) are as under:-
(Fig. in LMT)
Year
Allotment
Offtake
2015-16
265.82
245.30

2016-17
270.96
189.01
(upto Dec'2016)
(d): The total wheat stock available in Central Pool is 137.47 LMT as on 01.01.2017 against stocking norms of 128.00 LMT. No wheat has been imported since 2008-09 on Government account. However, the quantum of wheat imported in 2016 is at Annexure.
The procurement of wheat in RMS 2016-17 was 229.61 LMT against procurement of 280.88 LMT in RMS 2015-16 & 280.23 LMT in RMS 2014-15. To make more wheat available in the Open Market in the country through import to contain the domestic price of wheat, GOI reduced the import duty from 25% to 10% vide notification dated 23.09.2016 and then further from 10% to 0% vide notification dated 08.12.2016.
(e) & (f): The total quantum of wheat imported and exported by the country in 2015 and 2016 month-wise is at Annexure.
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ANNEXURE
ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (d), (e) & (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 800 TO BE ANSWERED ON 7th FEBRUARY, 2017 IN LOK SABHA.
Month-wise Import of Wheat for the year 2016 & 2015
Month
2016
2015
Quantity
(in TON)
Quantity
(in TON)
March
2750
4007
April
0.15
4106
May
7682
June
97078
July
50910
190531
August
209645
127203
September
252304
3076
October
261008
42516
November
554864
100
December
566152
29425
Total
1897633
505724
Month-wise Export of Wheat for the year 2016 & 2015
Month
2016
2015
Quantity (in TON)
Quantity (in TON)
March
21814
22330
April
52212
96930
May
49516
103249
June
32073

89704
July
23600
93434
August
26977
72051
September
4855
88503
October
3808
19953
November
5603
18596
December
7545
27103
Total
228003
631853
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